



IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (withdrawn) A combination product comprising at least one oxidizing metal complex and at least one substrate containing an indoxyl derivative resulting in an insoluble colored compound for use simultaneously, separately or spread out over time, intended for the detection of bacteria:
2. (withdrawn) The combination product as claimed in claim 1, wherein said substrate is selected from X-Gal, X-Phos, X-acglmn, Mag-Gal, Mag- α -Gal, and Mag-Phos, preferably X-Gal.
3. (withdrawn) The combination product as claimed in claim 1, wherein said metal complex is ammoniacal iron citrate.
- 4 (withdrawn) The combination product as claimed in claim 1, wherein said metal complex and said substrate are carried in an aqueous solvent at a concentration of between 3 and 900 mg/ml, preferably at 60 mg/ml, or an organic solvent at a concentration of between 100 mg/l and 50 g/l, particularly between 500 mg/l and 20 g/l, preferably at 10 g/l.
5. (withdrawn) The combination product as claimed in claim 1, further comprising magnesium sulfate at a concentration of between 50 mM and 10 M, preferably 2 M, and/or at least one antibiotic.
6. (withdrawn) A bacterial detection kit comprising a combination product as claimed in claim 1.
7. (original) A method for the detection of bacteria, comprising the following steps: a) a combination product as claimed in claim 1 added to a medium which may contain said bacteria cultured under anaerobic conditions, b) the appearance of a colored precipitate around the colonies (halo) and/or a color of the colonies is visualized.
8. (withdrawn) The use of an oxidizing metal complex for catalyzing the oxidative

polymerization of indoxyl derivatives resulting in an insoluble colored compound.

9. (original) The use as claimed in claim 8, for improving the detection of the release of an indoxyl derivative by an enzyme from a substrate containing an indoxyl derivative, it being possible for said substrate to be a substrate selected from X-Gal, X-Phos, X-acglmn, Mag-Gal, Mag- α -Gal, and Mag-Phos, preferably X-Gal.

10. (original) The use as claimed in claim 9, for intensifying the colored halo and/or for increasing the color of the colonies.

11. (original) The use as claimed in claim 8, wherein the oxidizing metal complex is ammoniacal iron citrate.

12. (original) The use of a combination product as claimed in claim 1, for the detection of bacteria which possess an enzyme allowing the release of an indoxyl derivative from a substrate containing an indoxyl derivative.